

Eligibility for new houses released

Tech. Sgt. Jim Moser
Public affairs

The Columbus AFB Housing Flight released eligibility requirements to fill the last of the 202 new base housing units.

“Now that we have completed all forced moves to new housing to realign our housing inventory, most of our new housing is assigned,” said Cyndi Fowlkes, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron housing management supervisor. “All new officer housing is occupied, however, there are some four bedroom junior enlisted and three and four bedroom senior enlisted units still available.”

Due to numerous questions from current housing residents about the possibility of moving to new housing, the flight set the following requirements for families residing in the older housing to move to the new on-base housing:

Junior enlisted four bedroom units are available for people who meet these requirements:

❑ E-1 thru E-6 married with four dependents living with them full time

❑ E-1 thru E-6 married with three dependents living with them full time and proof of an expected additional dependent, such as pregnancy, dependent parent, child custody change

❑ E-1 thru E-6 single with three dependents living with them full time

❑ E-1 thru E-6 single with two dependents residing with you full time and proof of an expected additional dependent

Senior enlisted three and four bedroom houses are available for people who meet these requirements:

❑ E-7 thru E-9 with one to four dependents living with them full time

❑ E-6 with line numbers for E-7 and at least one dependent living with them full time

❑ E-6 married with three dependents living with them full time

❑ E-6 single with two dependents living with them full time

“With only a few new units still available, not all applicants may be offered new housing,” Fowlkes said. “But if you qualify and are offered a new house, this move is voluntary and will be at no cost to the government.”

Families who meet the requirements are placed on the appropriate waiting list based on date of application, rank and bedroom entitlement. Available new enlisted housing will be offered to all families based on the waiting list, incoming people, off-base and on-base applicants until all houses are gone. For more information, call Ext. 7276.



2nd Lt. Joseph Coslett

Pre-flight check

First Lt. Eric Connell, 48th Flying Training Squadron instructor pilot, checks the landing gear on a T-1A Jayhawk. The T-1A is used to train pilots for the airlift track.

Town meeting focuses on education

Tech. Sgt. Jim Moser
Public affairs

The family support center held a town hall meeting focusing on education at 6 p.m. Tuesday at the base theater.

The meeting featured Dr. Therrell Myers, Columbus Municipal School District superintendent and other members of the school board.

Myers opened the meeting by thanking the parents of Columbus AFB children for maintaining good relations and communication with the board.

Then he went on to highlight some

of the major issues at hand.

“This year we will have some changes to [Columbus High School’s] graduation,” he said. “We normally hold graduation at the Mississippi University for Women, but due to the tornado, this year’s the class will graduate at Mississippi State University.”

He also pointed out all nine of Columbus’ elementary schools have received accreditation from the Mississippi Department of Education and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

Myers said the accreditations are important to military families because

the groups are recognized nationwide and will make transferring from school to school much easier.

During the meeting Myers talked about the boards 03-15 plan, “the next generation” of Columbus schools which could involve building an elementary school in the north side of Columbus. He said the board is working hard to plan for the future of the district.

“We are looking at how we can better serve the children,” Myers said.

Statewide testing was another major topic. “The Spring is full of

See TOWN, Page 3

Air Force announces new core competencies

Master Sgt. Scott Elliott
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — The Air Force’s senior leaders debuted the service’s new approach to describing its core competencies this week.

Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper made this announcement in two separate messages to all airmen. Roche released his first “The Secretary’s Vector” Jan. 14, while Jumper’s latest “Chief’s Sight Picture” was published Jan. 15.

The competencies are developing airmen, technology-to-warfighting and integrating operations. According to Roche, these three elements are fundamental to how the Air Force views itself, how it is viewed by leaders and colleagues, and how the service develops its capabilities for joint warfighting.

“These unique institutional qualities set the Air Force apart from the other services and every other military force in the world,” Roche said in The Secretary’s Vector. “By identifying and keeping these competencies foremost in our vision, we can more effectively advance these unique capabilities, as well as the ultimate effects we provide to the nation.”

These core competencies are not new, Jumper said in the Chief’s Sight Picture.

“Rather, they are the unique institutional qualities inherent in everything we’ve done and continue to do,” he said.

Core competencies form the foundation upon which the Air Force organizes, trains and equips and form the cornerstones of the service’s strength as a military service, Roche said.

Previously, the service had distilled its areas of expertise into the following six distinct capabilities and labeled them core competencies: air and space superiority, global attack, rapid global mobility, precision engagement, information superiority and agile combat support.

According to the secretary and chief of staff, the Air



Airman 1st Class Joanna Reihle

One of the three new core competencies is developing airmen, which is at the heart of combat capability.

Force’s very nature of developing and delivering air and space power are at the root of the need to recognize these core competencies.

“Our systems may change, our threats may vary, our tactics may evolve and our people may come and go, but these three core competencies remain the constants that define our Air Force and enable us to fight and win America’s wars,” Jumper said.

Of the three air and space core competencies, the secretary and chief of staff said developing airmen is the heart of combat capability.

“The ultimate source of combat capability resides in the men and women of the Air Force,” Roche said. “The values of strategy, technology and organization are diminished without professional airmen to leverage their attributes.”

Technology-to-warfighting involves the tools of combat capability.

“We combine the tremendous technological advancements of stealth, global communications connectivity, global positioning, and more, to put cursors on targets and steel on the enemy,” Jumper said. “It is our unique ability to apply various technologies in unison so effectively that allows us to translate our air and space power vision into decisive operational capability.”

“Innovative operational concepts and the efficient integration of all military systems — air, land, maritime, space and information — ensures maximum flexibility in the delivery of desired effects across the spectrum of conflict,” Roche said.

According to Jumper, victory in the 21st century belongs to those who can most quickly collect intelligence, communicate information and bring capabilities to bear against targets around the globe.

“This is precisely what our Joint and Combined Air Operations Centers achieve,” he said. “The result, integrated operations, is our unique ability to ... bring effects on the enemy at times and places of our choosing.”

By continually striving toward the air and space core competencies, they said, the Air Force will realize the potential of its capabilities.

“We can achieve success in these six distinctive capabilities only if we’re first successful in our three [air and space] core competencies,” Jumper said. “Only then do we bring the decisive effects of air and space power into joint warfighting.”

“Collectively, the air and space core competencies reflect the visions of the founders of airpower ... and serve to realize the potential of air and space forces,” Roche said.

“Our continued focus on and nurturing of these core competencies will enable us to remain the world’s greatest air and space force,” he said.

Airmen can file taxes online for free through IRS

ST. LOUIS — The Treasury Department, Office of Management and Budget and the Internal Revenue Service in Washington launched a new Web site Jan. 17 featuring private-sector partners who will allow eligible taxpayers to prepare and file their taxes online for free. A substantial number of citizens will be able to use this service.

President George W. Bush proposed free online tax filing last February as one of his e-government initiatives. Less than one year later, millions of Americans will benefit from free online tax filing services if they are eligible. Treasury, OMB and IRS officials have made this possible through a public-private partnership with some tax software companies known as the Free File Alliance. According to information found on the

IRS Web site, Free File is an easier, faster and secure way for citizens to file taxes and also allows Americans to get refunds in half the time, said officials.

“No one likes paying taxes,” said Kenneth W. Dam, acting treasury secretary. “It’s too confusing and time consuming. The launch of this new Web site is great news for millions of Americans. Free File makes it easy. Now they can save time, money and get their refunds in half the time by filing their taxes online for free.”

Each FFA member company sets taxpayer eligibility requirements for its own program. These requirements differ from company to company.

Generally, eligibility is based on factors such as age, adjusted gross income, state res-

idency, military status or eligibility to file a Form 1040EZ or for the Earned Income Tax Credit.

Taxpayers can review the list of companies, found on the Free File section of the IRS Web site, where eligibility requirements are shown company by company.

The primary candidates for Free File are those taxpayers who prepare their own taxes and still file paper returns.

Last filing season, the IRS received nearly 85 million paper returns, while nearly 47 million e-filed returns.

“Free File puts e-file within reach of more taxpayers than ever,” said acting IRS Commissioner Robert Wenzel. “They’ll soon discover what the 47 million taxpayers who e-filed last year already know: e-file is

quicker, e-file is more accurate, e-file is the best way to confirm the IRS received your return, and it’s the fastest route to a refund.”

E-government is an integral part of the president’s management agenda to make it easier for citizens and businesses to interact with the government, save taxpayer dollars and streamline citizen-to-government transactions.

A copy of the president’s e-government strategy, which includes information on each of the e-government initiatives, is available on the OMB Web site

A Free File initiative fact sheet, which includes list of the FFA members and frequently asked questions, can be found on the IRS Web site. (Courtesy of Air Force Print News.)

Mission Report

T-1A Goal: 1,490.0 hrs. Flown: 1,766.6 hrs.
T-38A Goal: 369 Flown: 469

T-37 Goal: 1,662 Flown: 2,240
T-38C Goal: 464 Flown: 622

Students graduated in FY03: 89
Next graduating class: SUPT Class 03-05

As of Wednesday

NEWS BRIEFS

Dorm meeting

A mandatory dorm meeting is at 3:30 p.m. Monday at the base theater. The individual dorm meetings are 4:15 p.m. Tuesday for the 544 dorm in the building 544 dayroom, 4:15 p.m. Wednesday for the 550 dorm in the Bldg. 547 dayroom, and 4:15 p.m. Thursday for the 555 dorm in Bldg. 547 dayroom. For information, call Ext. 7525.

Retirement seminars

The Air Force Personnel Center offers pre-planning retirement seminars from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday at the Phillips auditorium. The Tuesday seminar is for Civil Service Retirement Systems employees, and the Wednesday is for Federal Employees Retirement Systems people. Spouses are welcome to attend. Seating is limited to 50 people per seminar. To sign up, call civilian personnel at Ext. 2641.

Assignment night

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 03-05 assignment night is at 5 p.m. Jan. 31 at the Columbus Club.

Education hours

The education center changes its hours effective Feb. 3. Customer service is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, issue tuition assistance is open from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays and counseling is by appointment only. For more information, call Ext. 2562.

Water problem scares downtown, base

2nd Lt. Joseph Coslett
Public affairs

Kemper County, south of Columbus, received a threatening phone call saying the Columbus water supply was poisoned Tuesday. Immediately Columbus AFB took measures to secure the safety of the base population by sending out the message, “Do not drink the tap water until further notice.” The bioenvironmental engineers responded, making the scene in 15 minutes. “We quickly responded to the scene to conduct all of our tests,” said 1st Lt. Kendra Gomez, bioenvironmental engineering element chief. All of the lab tests came back negative. Finally, Columbus AFB gave the all clear message, “the base water supply is safe to drink.” The readiness flight recommends having a two-week water supply to help minimize the effect of a disaster.



2nd Lt. Joseph Coslett
Kenneth Payne buys water at the commissary after a water scare Tuesday.

TOWN

(Continued from Page 1)

testing,” said Rebecca Taylor, Elementary Curriculum, Technology and Testing Coordinator for the board.

Taylor stressed the importance of the test and urged parents to help their children get ready for them. “Our accreditation hinges on how our students do on the tests this spring.”

Throughout the meeting, Myers and the board stressed their support for Columbus children and parents, including the fact the board is sending three of its school counselors to seminars at Ft. Polk La., designed to better prepare them to help the military student. The family support center is also sending representatives to the seminar.

Tech Sgt. Mike Rieger, who recently moved with his family to

Columbus from Moody AFB Ga., came to the meeting hoping to resolve issues with credit transfers for his daughter.

“The board gave sincere responses to the questions,” he said. “I felt I was being passed off from person to person until I reached this level. I wanted to make sure she [my daughter] would not pay later for something we could fix now.”

“President [George W.] Bush said ‘No child should be left behind,’” Myers said. “We are working hard to make sure no one is left behind. Communication is the key.”

For more information about Columbus schools, call the FSC at Ext. 2790, the school district directly at 241-7400 or visit the website at <http://www2.mde.k12.ms.us/4420/>.

ORI team evaluates more than flying mission

Lt. Col. Mike Martel
14th Flying Training Wing



As a command pilot with over 4,200 hours of flying and an instructor pilot with over 1,300 hours of instructor time, I will tell you the operational readiness inspection in March will evaluate our ability to train combat pilots for America. However, as chief of wing inspections, I will tell you the ORI will also evaluate the wing in two important areas — contingency response and wartime mission support. A significant portion of the wing’s people and material are allocated or dedicated to these essential capabilities. Contingencies can be major accidents like an aircraft crash, a fire in base housing or a leak in the pipeline leading to the fuel farm. Another contingency is a natural disaster; the tornado that touched down in November is a

perfect example. Terrorist attacks, robberies, recalls and a number of other items fall under the heading of attack response. In any category, the wing must respond to a dynamic, “haven’t quite seen that before” situation in which we may not have all the facts. An effective contingency response relies on a coordinated base effort. During a contingency response, the wing is evaluated on its ability to detect, report and respond to a situation. The base must set an effective command and control system to respond, then contain and secure the scene. In addition, the wing must control information to the media, protect people, inform higher command, evaluate the force protection condition, evaluate or buy additional contract support, consider all legal issues, and prevent an escalation of the situation. The commander must then decide how to employ all base capabilities and people to include the specialized teams such as shelter management, personnel, mortuary affairs, bomb disposal, readiness support, hazardous material or contamination control. Expected responders such as medical, civil engineering,

fire and security are certainly heavy into the response equation. Every agency, service or squadron has a response commitment. Another significant wing commitment is our requirement to provide agile combat support capabilities to combatant commanders. The wing has over 270 unit type codes. A UTC is a mixture of a given quantity of people and or equipment required by a combatant commander (such as U.S. Central Command or U.S. Special Operations Command). That is a significant commitment of over 500 people with some duties to include: firefighters, an entire security team with weapons (of course), command post people or postal workers — nearly every job except for pilots. Currently, we have more than 45 people shipped to combatant commanders in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Noble Eagle, Operation Joint Force, Operation Southern Watch and Operation Northern Watch. The ORI will evaluate the wing’s important responsibility and tremendous capabilities regarding contingency response and agile combat support.

STRAIGHT TALK LINE

Question: Is there any way you can get the folks in the BX parking lot to slow down? Many people drive too fast and don’t slow for pedestrians.

Answer: First, let me thank you for your observation. We are always concerned with speeding on base, especially in congested areas. There was an article published in the Silver Wings Jan. 10 highlighting our base traffic regulations and safety concerns overall. Furthermore, I have directed our security forces to focus on speed enforcement at the BX, in housing and especially near bus stops. We will also pursue placing crosswalks with speed bumps in front of the exchange and commissary to help ensure drivers are more aware of pedestrians in these areas. Thanks for your interest in the safety of our BLAZE team.

Col. Steve Schmidt
14th Flying Training Wing commander



Airman Alexis Lloyd
Col. Steve Schmidt, 14th Flying Training Wing commander, hands out towels at the fitness and sports center. Schmidt was touring the facility to see the new front desk, equipment and renovations the center is currently working on.

SILVER WINGS

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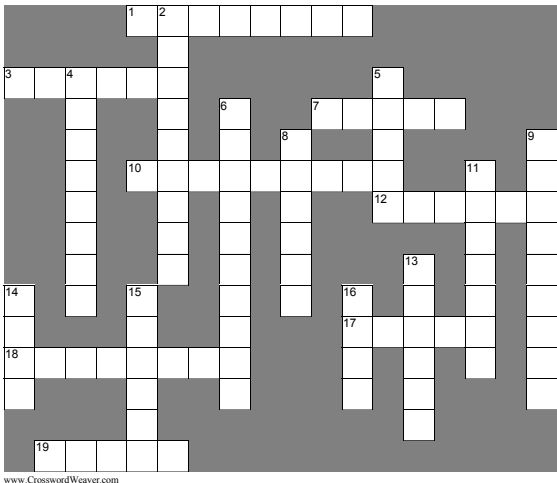
Silver Wings Editorial Staff
14th FTW commander
Col. Steve Schmidt
Chief, public affairs
Pam Warnten
Editor
Airman Alexis Lloyd

Key phone numbers

Base Exchange..... 434-6013
Chaplain..... 434-2500
Civil Engineer Service Desk..... 434-2856
Civilian Personnel..... 434-2635
Clinic:
Family Practice..... 434-2172
Appointment Desk..... 434-2273
After Hours Care..... 434-2273
Columbus Club..... 434-2489
Commissary..... 434-7106
Finance..... 434-2706
Housing Maintenance..... 434-7370
Inspector General..... 434-2927
Legal Office..... 434-7030
Military Equal Opportunity..... 434-2591
Security Forces..... 434-7129
Shoppette..... 434-6026

CROSSWORD

This puzzle is brought to Columbus AFB by the Operational Readiness Inspection team. It is designed to get the base familiar with the ORI and chain of command.



Across

- 1 Recalls: Pass the recall message _____
- 3 A white and _____ parachute signifies a non-combatant airman.
- 7 Sunburn is like a _____ degree burn
- 10 Recalls begin at the _____ Start Time (RST)
- 12 _____ pressure is the best way to stop external bleeding.
- 17 Wearing of mask, hood, field gear and gloves is MOPP Level _____
- 18 First responders to an emergency: Initial _____ Element
- 19 Commander of the Initial Response Element: Fire _____
- Down**
- 2 Prime BEEF: Prime Base Engineer _____ Force.

- 4 Report an attack: SALUTE - Size, _____, Location, Unit/Uniform, Time, Equipment
- 5 LOAC: Law of _____ Conflict
- 6 UXO: _____ Ordnance
- 8 If UXO discovered: Identify, mark, evacuate and _____
- 9 _____ are living organisms which can multiply or live in a host.
- 11 Initial Response Element is composed of the fire department, _____ personnel and security forces.
- 13 ORI Goal #3: No _____ write-ups
- 14 Team of individuals responsible to look for casualty remains
- 15 ORI Goal #1 is to recognize our best _____ and best programs
- 16 Major Accident Response

Answers can be found on Page 9.

Outdoor recreation trip to Gatlinburg creates camaraderie

People face transportation problems with miles of smiles



Morgan Blanchard skis down the bunny slope.

Airman Alexis Lloyd
Public affairs

The group put on extra courage and coats to go face the Smoky Mountain ski slopes in Gatlinburg, Tenn., Saturday and Sunday.

The trip was sponsored by outdoor recreation.

The group met in the community center parking lot Saturday before the sun came up and were on their way.

After unloading everyone's luggage in the chalet, similar to a cabin, the trip got to the slopes.

The group gathered their skis and boots, except for the two people who brought their snowboards, and they were on their way.

Daylight was fading fast and snow started falling down at the ski resort.

Some people decided to hit the slopes, while others took a ski lesson first.

"I just wanted a refresher," said Master Sgt. Ed Marallo, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron.

"I've only gone skiing once before and wanted to

be sure I still knew what I was doing," Marallo said.

The group got back on the bus and started back to the chalet. Only the bus didn't make it all the way up the mountain. There was a sharp hairpin turn going to the chalet, and the bus got stuck.

Most of the group hiked up the rest of the mountain to the chalet, while some stayed behind to help try to fix the problem. A wrecker came out and pulled the bus free, but the bus got stuck again.

A breakfast fit for kings was prepared the next morning for the group. Everyone ate and then got ready to hike down the hill to catch a taxi to the ski resort.

While everyone hit the slopes, Joe Caldiero, outdoor recreation manager, made sure the bus was fixed. He met the group later that evening with the bus to go eat a gourmet dinner prepared by Klaus Bauer. After dinner, some went in the hot tub and some watched a movie.

The next morning the group was leaving the chalet to head back to Columbus AFB. The bus was on its way when the group encountered another problem — the transmission went out on the bus.

The group was then shuttled to the mall in Chattanooga, Tenn. Caldiero went to the closest airport and rented a 15-pack van and a mini-van to bring the group home.

The group was on its way again and made it home without anymore problems.

"Considering all that happened, I had a really great time," said Capt. Samantha Blanchard, 14th Medical Operations Squadron.

"The customers made this a great trip," Caldiero said. "The positive attitude expressed by all helped ease the pain a little and fortunately the emergency logistics fell into place very smoothly.

"In services, taking care of the customer is our first priority, but it is always a two-way street," he said. "Because of the attitudes of the dedicated and caring people on the trip we were able to turn a negative 'adventure' into a positive one with two great home cooked meals, two good days of skiing and an extra hour of shopping at the mall. Thanks to all who participated."

For more information on upcoming trips, call Ext. 2507.



People go on the ski lifts to get to the top of the slopes.



Blanchard puts on her skis one at a time.



Senior Airman Matt Misquez, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron, snowboards down the mountain.
Photos by Airman Alexis Lloyd

AT THE CHAPEL

Chapel schedule Catholic

Sunday activities:

9:15 a.m. — Mass
10:30 a.m. — CCD
5 p.m. — Confessions
5:30 p.m. — Mass

Wednesday

11:30 a.m. — Mass

Protestant

Sunday activities:

9 a.m. — Sunday school
10:45 a.m. — Traditional worship
1 p.m. — Contemporary worship
Wednesdays

5:30 p.m. — Video Bible study supper

7:15 p.m. — Choir rehearsal

Thursdays

11:30 a.m. — Lunch Bible study
For Islamic, Jewish, Orthodox or other services, call the chapel at Ext. 2500.

AT THE MOVIES

All movies are shown at 7 p.m., unless otherwise noted, at the base theater.

Today

“*Hot Chick*” (PG-13, crude and sexual humor, language and drug references, 101 min.)

Starring Rob Schnieder.

Saturday

“*Solaris*” (PG-13, sexuality/nudity, brief language and thematic elements, 99 min.)

Starring George Clooney.

Jan. 31

“*Star Trek: Nemesis*” (PG-13, sc-fi action violence, peril and one scene of sexual content, 101 min.)

Starring Rob Schnieder.

CHANNEL 64

BLAZE 64 offers announcements for people living in base housing or the dormitories.

Call 2nd Lt. Joseph Coslett for more information at Ext. 7065.

Weekdays

9 a.m., noon and 2 p.m.

Air Force Television News

Monday through Jan. 24

9:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.

College Level Examination

Program:

Humanities

FAMILY SUPPORT



(Editor's note: All activities are offered at the family support center unless otherwise specified. For more information, call Ext. 2790.)

Bundles of Joy: The bundles of joy program's meeting is from 2 to 4 p.m. Jan. 27. Active-duty people or spouses of active-duty people who are expecting a baby are eligible for this free program with information and gifts for their child.

Fam-Link: Occasional newsletters are sent to people's homes about special base events and things happening in the local area. To subscribe to this free newsletter, send an e-mail to FSC@colum bus.af.mil.

BASE NOTES



Change of command: Lt. Col. Kathyrn Hall assumes command of the 14th Medical Operations Squadron from Lt. Col. Harvey Kelley in a change-of-command ceremony at 9 a.m. Feb. 7 at the Wing Ceremonial Plaza. For more information call Ext. 2785.

Awards banquet: The 14th Flying Training Wing holds the Annual Awards Banquet at 6 p.m. Feb. 7 at the Columbus Club. Contact squadron representative for more information.

Valentine's Day special: The officer spouses' club sells roses for Valentine's Day. Cost is \$30 per dozen or \$18 per half dozen. Place orders before Feb. 7. Proceeds benefit club charities. To order call 434-8398, 6376 or 6297.

OSC social: The Columbus Officers' Spouses' Club offers scholarships to graduating high school seniors, spouses and current college student. Every high school applicant must be a dependent of an active duty or retired military member associated with Columbus AFB. Continuing education applicants may be the spouse or child of an active duty, retired, deceased or MIA military member. Obtain an application at the base education center, family support center, or high school or college guidance office. Any questions call Christy Milner at 240-1695 or email christy.milner@columbus.

af.mil. Application deadline is Feb. 7.

New hours: The 14th Medical Group clinic support staff closes from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Thursdays and reopens from 4:30 to 5 p.m. effective Feb. 13.

The support staff is the laboratory, radiology and pharmacy. For more information, call Ext. 2168.

Officers' spouses' social: The Columbus AFB Officers' Spouses' Club's social is at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 18. The program is wine tasting. The menu is heavy hor d'oeuvres for \$10. Columbus Club members receive a \$2 discount.

New members and spouses are welcome. For reservations, call 434-5511 or e-mail: davidjeastman@cableone.net.

Safety Web site: New Web site for safety. Safety posts the safety newsletter, forms and other pertinent information for safety programs. Visit <https://www.columbus.af.mil/BLAZEWEB/safetyweb/Safety%20Web/Main%20Page2.htm>.

AROUND TOWN



Jewish ceremony: The Tu B'shevat, new year of the trees, is celebrated today to Sunday at Temple B'nai Israel, 717 Second Ave. North, Columbus. Rabbi Mark Peilin will preside. The regular Shabbat service is at 8 p.m. today. The Torah study is at 10:00 a.m. Saturday. The Tu B'shevat family seder is at 10 a.m. Sunday. For more information, call Natalie Bledstein at 434-6566.

Stage musical: A touring company from New York is scheduled to perform Porgy and Bess, a musical, at 7 p.m. Jan. 31 at Rent Auditorium on the Mississippi University for Women campus.

Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$23 at the door. The event is sponsored by the Columbus Arts Council, Omnova Solutions and the Mississippi Arts Commission.



Staff Sgt. Pamela Smith

Forward deployed

Airman 1st Class Jonathan Morgan, 14th Operations group, sorts cards and letters after returning from the international airport. He is assigned to the 320th Expeditionary Communications Squadron's postal flight at a forward deployed location.

For more information, tickets or to volunteer, call 328-2787.

Historic tours: The Columbus Historic Foundation in partnership with several area organizations conduct historic African-American tours in Columbus at 9 and 11 a.m. Feb. 1. Each tour is free and transportation is supplied, however, reservations must be made. For reservations, call 329-3533.

Prayer breakfast: A community prayer breakfast featuring special speakers and music is at 7:30 a.m. Feb. 7 at Hogarth Auditorium on the Mississippi University for Women campus.

Cost is \$7 per person. For more information or to buy tickets, call Maj. Brynn Morgan at Ext. 7030.



Services offers choices

American Cafe open: The Columbus Club's American Cafe is open from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Fridays and is open to all ranks. Club members receive a \$2 discount on each meal.

Entrees include but aren't limited to chicken Monterey, charbroiled New York strip steak, and grilled pork chops Omaha. Call Ext. 2489.

All ranks bingo: Games begin at 6 p.m. Fridays in the community center ballroom.

People play five \$75 regular games, one \$125 odd and even coverall game and a \$1,000 progressive jackpot game.

Consolation prize is \$150 if the jackpot does not go in 58 numbers or less.

Admission fees for nonmembers are \$5. Call Ext. 2489.

Variety night: Rhythm and blues night, featuring Disc Jockey Kool Kleve, is from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. today in the enlisted lounge. Call Ext. 2489.

College basketball: The Columbus Club's Landing Lounge is open to all ranks from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays for college basketball games.

Social hours are from noon to 1 p.m. and 5 to 6 p.m. Call Ext. 2489.

Sunday brunch: The Columbus Club's all-ranks brunch is from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sunday. Cost is \$10.95 per person.

Club members receive a \$2 discount. Call Ext. 2489.

Crafts classes: Register four days in advance for the skills development center's crafts classes.

Make a liberty heart for \$9 Feb. 4, paper folding cards for \$7 Feb. 11, warm hands and warm hearts plaque for \$12 Feb. 18 and a USA door hanging for \$10 Feb. 25.

Children's crafts classes include making a love in a bag for Dad Feb. 5, first class candy for Mom Feb. 12, an Uncle Sam door hanging Feb. 19 and a St. Patrick's sign Feb. 26.

Children's classes are \$4 each. Call Ext. 7836.

Casino trip: The information, ticket and travel office offers a trip today and Feb. 21 to the Silver Star Casino in Philadelphia, Miss.

Cost is \$15 per person, and it includes transportation and \$15 in

coin.

The bus departs at 5:30 p.m. and returns at approximately 2:30 a.m. Call Ext. 7858.

Circus trip: The information, ticket and travel office offers a trip to the Ringling Brothers, Barnum and Bailey Circus Saturday in the Birmingham-Jefferson Civic Center.

Cost is \$22 per person, and it includes ticket and transportation. The bus departs at 8 a.m. and returns at 5 p.m.

Showtime is at 11:30 a.m. Call Ext. 7858.

Chef Anthony's cooking class: Register by Monday at the Columbus Club for Chef Anthony's cooking class starting Feb. 3.

This four-week course is from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Feb. 3, Feb. 10, Feb. 18 and Feb. 24.

The first week covers appetizers, week two is salads, week three is entrees and week four is desserts.

This is a members only event. Cost is \$45 per person. Call Ext. 2489.

Quilting classes: Register for the "I Spy Quilt" or the "Trip Around the World Baby Quilting" classes offered at the skills development center.

Cost is \$40 plus materials. Start dates depend on number of students registered. Call Ext. 7836.

Parents day out: The child development center offers a "Parents Day Out" or "Give Parents a Break" from 4 to 10 p.m. Feb. 8.

Call Ext. 2479 for reservations.

Teen aviation camp: High school students who expect to graduate in 2005 or 2006 may apply for the U.S. Air Force Academy's teen aviation camp May 31 to June 6, 2003, in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

This program is open to all eligible youth program users who are interested in attending the Air Force Academy or making the Air Force a career.

Travel expense will be the student's responsibility.

Youth must complete the teen aviation camp application form and the familiarization exam and schedule an interview with the youth center director, Kayline Hamilton.

Packages must be completed and turned in by Feb. 14 to the youth cen-



Rachel Kasic

Getting ready for NAF auction

Mark Wilburn, recreation aid, prepares a display of electronic equipment in the outdoor recreation building. A non-appropriated funds auction is at 11 a.m. Feb. 19 at outdoor recreation for electronics, furniture, commercial kitchen equipment and other items. For more information, call Ext. 2505.

ter. Camp schedule includes a ropes challenge course, orienteering course, T-37 simulator presentation and individual aero club flights.

Stop by the youth center for the application package or call Ext. 2504 for details.

Monte Carlo cruise membership

night: The Columbus Club offers a membership night starting at 5 p.m. Feb. 19.

Activities include casino style games, prizes, free food and beverages. Call Ext. 2489.

Library open house: The base library offers an open house from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Feb. 20 to orient base people on what services they have to offer.

They are also encouraging people to register into their library system. Call Ext. 2934.

Veterinary clinic special: During February the veterinary clinic offers a special on their heartworm tests and heartworm preventatives.

Office hours are from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday. Call Ext. 2281.

Columbus Club Lunch Buffet

Served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
\$7.95 per person

Club members receive \$2 discount.
Cost includes vegetable, tossed salad and beverage.

A la carte menu also available.

Today
Fried catfish
Popcorn shrimp
Cherry cobbler

Monday
Fried chicken
Turkey pot pie
Peach cobbler

Tuesday
Meat loaf
Sweet and sour pork
Apple cobbler

Wednesday
Chicken cacciatore
Roast beef
Apple cobbler

Thursday
Herb baked chicken
Beef stir fry
Banana pudding

Check out the Services website at
www.cafbgrapevine.com

Travis AFB shows ‘true colors’ during NFL game

Tech. Sgt. Scott King
60th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs

TRAVIS AFB, Calif. — Bay area football fans showed their patriotism and appreciation for the Air Force on Jan. 19 as the Oakland Raiders beat the Tennessee Titans during the league championship game at Network Associates Coliseum in Oakland, Calif.

As part of pre-game festivities, more than 200 people from Travis AFB, Calif., unfurled a giant U.S. “super-flag” during the national anthem.

Right on cue, the crowd was then treated to an Air Force flyover by four F-15E Strike Eagles from the 391st Fighter Squadron at Mountain Home AFB, Idaho.

“While holding the flag, seeing the F-15s fly over, standing in my uniform and listening to the crowd yell

‘U-S-A’ over and over, I realized all of these things are the sounds of freedom [and] I’m proud to be protecting that,” said 2nd Lt. Tora King, a 60th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron section commander from Travis. “The men and women in blue from Travis do an awesome job for us every year,” said Mary Barnes, director of entertainment for the Raiders.

“Our team and fans love it when we bring the military out. It’s obvious from the response we get from the crowd that America’s military commands respect, and our fans let them know it,” Barnes said.

It is also important to the airmen to know America supports them, she said.

“I was overwhelmed by the amount of respect and gratitude we received from all of the fans. It really made the whole day worthwhile,” King said.



Tech. Sgt. Jim Verchio

Airmen from the Travis Air Force Base, Calif., combined color guard keep the “superflag” from touching the ground at the Oakland Raiders’ home playoff game Jan. 19 against the Tennessee Titans.

SHORTS

Recreation league

The deadline to register for recreational soccer league is Feb. 10.

The league is for BLAZE and military ID card holders ages 18 and up.

For more information, call Ext. 2772 or visit www.geocities.com/columbusfutbol/.

Spring soccer

Deadline for registering for ages 3 and up indoor soccer is Feb. 14 at the youth center.

Cost is \$25 for members and \$35 for nonmembers.

Volunteer coaches are needed to support this program.

Season’s scheduled to begin in March.

Players must have current physical on file or obtain one before the start of the program.

Players who register after the deadline are charged a late fee. Call Ext. 2504.

Youth league

The deadline to register for off base youth center boys’ baseball and girls’ softball teams in Columbus-Lowndes Recreation League is Feb. 28.

The age groups are boys ages 11-12 and

13-15, girls ages 11-12 and 13-15. The cost is \$40 per player.

Volunteer coaches are needed to coach each age group.

Transportation is provided. Call Ext. 2504.

Bowling standings

	Team	Wins	Losses
The following are the intramural Thursday leagues standings as of Jan. 16.	Misfits	96	38
	Strokin	90	46
	14th OSS	84	52
	SFS #1	48	80
	48th FTS	48	80
	SFS #2	32	96

Basketball standings

The following are the intramural league standings as of Wednesday.

Team	Wins	Losses
OSS	6	1
DynCorp	6	1
48th FTS	4	2
14th MSS	5	3
37th/41st FTS	3	3
14th COM	4	4
14th MDG	3	5
50th FTS	2	4
14th SFS	0	10